



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 5 - 11, 2015

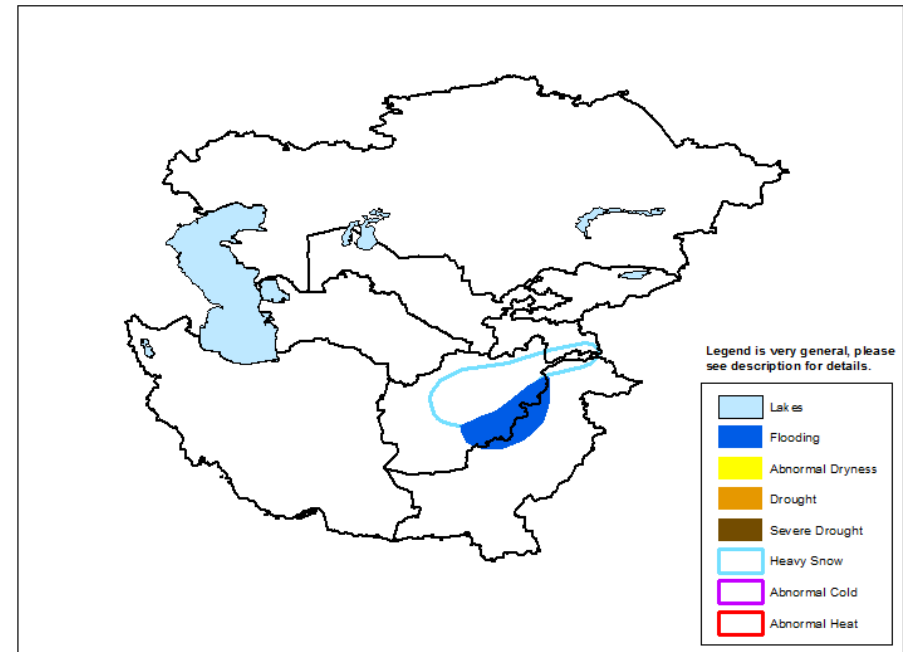
Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures prevailed across Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan during the final week of February, while temperatures averaged below-normal across Afghanistan and Turkmenistan. Widespread freezing temperatures were likely observed across the lower elevations of Afghanistan. During the next week, the GFS model indicates that the temperature pattern observed during late February will persist into early March.

Precipitation

Rain and high-elevation snow (local amounts exceeding 100 mm, liquid equivalent) fell across Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan from February 22 - 28. The heavy precipitation led to avalanches across northern Afghanistan during late February. Following a lack of snow, above-normal temperatures, and high snow levels early in the winter, frequent storms have resulted in a large increase in snow-water content across much of Afghanistan. Therefore, concern has eased for abnormal dryness across Afghanistan.

During the next week, the GFS model indicates that the relatively wet pattern is likely to continue with widespread precipitation amounts of 10 to 25 mm, liquid equivalent, across northern and central Afghanistan. A heavy snow hazard is posted for the central highlands and northeast mountains of Afghanistan, while potential flooding exists across the lower elevations of eastern Afghanistan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.